

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

For Release November 6, 1970

Walker 343-2463  
Carroll 343-5634

## NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

### Whoopers Winging Way South

Fall is in the air, and so are whooping cranes. These magnificent birds are making their annual southern migration from the Canadian wilds to the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the Texas coast. The first whooper arrived on October 17, and officials of the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife hope that a record number follow. About 56 whoopers exist in the wild; they are classified as an endangered species.

### Hunters Reminded of Change in Transporting Ducks

Hunters are reminded that rules have been changed for transporting from the field migratory game birds they've bagged.

In the past, duck hunters could possess more than the daily bag limit in the field. This year, regulations governing the transporting of ducks from the area where taken are more stringent, according to the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The new Federal regulations, like many State hunting laws, permit a hunter to possess or transport no more than his daily bag limit while in the field.

Specifically, a hunter may possess no more than one day's bag limit when he transports his ducks and geese from the location of shooting to his auto, lodging, home locker plant, post office or common carrier.

As in the past, however, hunters returning home after an outing of two or more days may possess and transport up to two days' bag limit.

The new provisions appear in the Federal waterfowl regulations summary available at post offices and most hunting license outlets, The Bureau said. The provisions apply nationwide.

### Encroachment Hurting Golden Eagles

Aircraft censuses and ground studies by biologists of the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife indicate a stable or even slightly increasing population of golden eagles in much of Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico. But around metropolitan Denver, investigators found birds abandoning traditional nesting sites, particularly in areas being built up for human communities.

### Fish Nutrition Chamber

Successful application of a tool to test nutrient value of fish feeds has been made by fishery researchers of the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. A plastic bottle-type device holds a fish and allows oxygenated water and nutrients to enter at one end. Wastes from the fish exit with water at the other end. Researchers are able to determine closely how much fish growth results from various amounts and kinds of feed. Much of the Bureau's work with the fish nutrition chamber has been with rainbow trout, but probably other species, including salmon and catfish, can be used similarly.

### Duck Stamp Sales Up

More than 2 million duck stamps were purchased in fiscal year 1970, the largest number since 1959, the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife announced. Income from the sales of these Federal hunting stamps totaled more than \$6 million--all to go toward acquisition of key wildlife habitat such as waterfowl production areas in the "duck factory" region of the Great Plains.

### Restoring Shad to the Connecticut River

Juvenile shad resulting from the 3½ million fertilized shad eggs planted last spring by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in the Connecticut River are being studied for growth and survival during their downstream migration this fall. The upstream portions of this river have been closed to shad more than 100 years because of high dams, but a cooperative Federal-State restoration program is working on restoring runs to lower portions and tributaries of the river.

### Pesticides Toxicity Handbook

A "Handbook of Toxicity of Pesticides to Wildlife" is the result of the Denver Wildlife Research Center of the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife testing more than 100 pesticide formulations on such birds as mallards and ring-necked pheasants. This technical publication is available for \$1 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.